

Message Text

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17
ACTION A-01

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 H-3 SS-07 /018 W

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O P 160312Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMCONSUL HONG IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL UDORN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY RANGOON PRIORITY

SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6870

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VIENTIANE 1957

E.O. 11652: N/-

TAGS: OVIP (MANSFIELD, MICHAEL J.)

SUBJECT: CODEL MANSFIELD VISIT TO LAOS

REF: VIENTIANE 1956

1. CHIEF OF PROTOCOL KHAMTHAN RATANAVONG CALLED EMBOFF IN EARLY AUGUST 16 TO SAY THAT LAO WERE HAPPY TO RECEIVE CODEL AND THAT APPOINTMENT SET UP WITH ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER KHAMPHAY BOUPHA AT 1000. CLEARANCE HAS BEEN GIVEN FOR ATTACHE PLANE TO LAND. KHAMTHAN ADDED THAT LAO WOULD NOT RPT NOT ATTEND LUNCH HOSTED BY CHARGE. NO OTHER APPOINTMENTS SCHEDULED. LAO DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF PROTOCOL SOUTHSAKHONE PATHAMMAVONG WILL MEET AND SEND OFF AT AIRPORT.

2. EMBOFF ASKED WHETHER APPOINTMENT WITH KHAMPHAY COULD POSSIBLY BE MOVED TO 1100 WHICH WOULD MEAN CODEL WOULD NOT HAVE TO START TO EARLY FROM BANGKOK TO GET TO AIRPORT TO FLY UP. KHAMTAN SAID HE WOULD CHECK AND LET US KNOW.

3. KHAMPHAY BOUPHA (PHONETIC KAAMPAI BOOPAA) IS FORMER LAO AMBASSADOR TO HANOI. HE SPEAKS FRENCH BUT NO ENGLISH. I WILL INTERPRET. FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS
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ACCOMPANYING HIM IN MEETING WILL BE DIRECTOR OF WESTERN

AND PACIFIC AFFAIRS SOMBAT CHOUNLAMANY (PHONETIC SOMBAT CHOUNLAMANE) AND DEPUTY DIRECTOR PHEUIPHAN NGAOSYVATHN (PHONETIC POEYPAAN NGAOSEEVAAT). SOMBAT ABOUT FORTY, SPEAKS FRENCH BUT LITTLE ENGLISH, ATTENDED ST. CYR BEFORE 1963 WHEN RE RETURNED TO SAM NEUA, AND CAME DOWN TO VIENTIANE IN 1976. PHEUIPHAN IS YOUNGER AND ALSO SPEAKS FRENCH.

4. ASSUMING LAO AGREE TO 1100 APPOINTMENT, WE PROPOSE FOLLOWING SCHEDULE:
0830 LEAVE BANGKOK
1000 ARRIVE VIENTIANE
1015 BRIEFING AT EMBASSY
1100 CALL ON ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER
1230 LUNCHEON AT MY RESIDENCE WITH AMERICANS, KNOWLEDGE-ABLE FOREIGN DIPLOMATS, AND UNDP AND UNHCR REPRESENTATIVES.
AFTER LUNCH: REMAINDER OF AFTERNOON FREE FOR CONTINUED DISCUSSIONS OR ACCORDING TO CODEL DESIRES WITH DEPARTURE FOR BANGKOK AT ITS DISCRETION.

5. IF LAO INSIST ON 1000 APPOINTMENT, FLIGHT SCHEDULE WILL HAVE TO BE MOVED UP TO ARRIVE VIENTIANE 0945. WE WOULD THEN PROPOSE HOLD EMBASSY BRIEFING AFTER CALL ON KHAMPHAY. WILL INFORM YOU AS SOON AS WE HEAR FROM FOREIGN MINISTRY AS TO WHETHER IT AGREES TO 1100 APPOINTMENT.

6. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE INFORM US WHETHER DEPARTURE FROM BANGKOK AT 0815 TO 0830 AND REMAINDER OF SCHEDULE OUTLINED ABOVE ARE ACCEPTABLE. PLEASE INFORM US OF PLANNED ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE TIMES FOR US TO NOTIFY LAO.
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